

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ELECTION LAWS
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1983

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1059 AN ACT CONCERNING EXPLANATIONS McHenry (OTP-ND)
FOR REFERENDA QUESTIONS WHICH LD 1663
APPEAR ON A BALLOT

SUMMARY: Would have required that the AG's statement of intent and content for constitutional resolutions and statewide referenda include a statement of fiscal impact and be written in a manner which may be easily read and understood at the average state reading comprehension level.

1060 AN ACT TO PROMOTE BETTER VOTER Nadeau (LV/WD)
PARTICIPATION AND TO DESIGNATE
THE DAY OF THE STATE GENERAL
ELECTION A STATE HOLIDAY

SUMMARY: Would have made election day a State holiday and would have allowed any voter to vote absentee.

1180 AN ACT RELATING TO VOTING BY Nadeau (OTP-AM)
CITIZENS OVERSEAS ENACT. PL 431

SUMMARY: Requires the Secretary of State to furnish absentee ballots and envelopes 20 days prior to an election. Establishes a blank absentee ballot for use by military personnel. Removes requirement that voters outside U.S. have ballot checked before voting it and eliminates requirement that the ballot be notarized.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-283): Deletes the requirement that the Secretary of State provide absentee ballots 70 days before the election.
(ADOPTED)

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-287): Would have required the clerk to type in the names of candidates who have qualified at the time a blank absentee ballot is requested.

1199 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT 3RD PARTIES Rolde (ONTP)
FROM DISTRIBUTING POLITICAL
MATERIAL ON BEHALF OF A CAN-
DIDATE UNLESS AUTHORIZED TO DO
SO BY THAT CANDIDATE

SUMMARY: Would have prohibited unauthorized campaigning on behalf of a candidate and imposed penalties for violation.

1200 AN ACT TO RESTRICT THE TIME McHenry (LV/WD)
DURING WHICH A CANDIDATE MAY
CAMPAIGN BEFORE THE GENERAL
ELECTION

SUMMARY: Would have restricted the time during which a candidate in a general election may campaign to 60 days before the election.